## Economic Development Meeting Tuesday, September 5, 2023 5:30 p.m. – Parowan City Offices – 35 East 100 North

**MEMBERS PRESENT** – David Harris, Mike Keil, Rick Anderson, Lori Eichelberger, Matt Gale (Council Representative), Dan Jessen (City Manager), Stacy Gale (Secretary).

**STAFF PRESENT** – None.

**PUBLIC PRESENT** – None.

MEMBERS ABSENT – Jared Meibos (Chairman), Dave Mineer, Todd Gale, Jason Green.

**NOMINATE CHAIR PRO TEM** – David Harris nominated Lori Eichelberger to be Chair Pro Tem until Jared Meibos can return. Mike Keil seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

**CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 5:47 p.m. by Lori Eichelberger.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Lori Eichelberger moved to approve the minutes from August 1, 2023. David Harris seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The minutes were approved.

RURAL COMMUNITIES OPPORTUNITY GRANT – INTENT TO APPLY/PRE-APPLICATION FOR LIGHTING AT THE SOCCER FIELDS – Dan Jessen said this grant is not for the lighting at the soccer fields. We applied for this grant last October for the lighting but did not receive it. Dan said this grant is the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO) grant and they rarely do anything with recreation. If we re-apply for this grant for the soccer field lighting, we will probably be told no again.

Dan said we can apply for up to \$6,000. Dan read the grant purpose to the committee.

Dan said we applied for another grant to complete a business loop road all around the airport but we didn't get that grant. Dan said he plans to apply for that grant the next time it comes around and tighten up the language. Dan said he applied for that grant from an Economic Development standpoint because in order to apply under the Federal Transportation Funding with the earmark program, it has to be on UDOT's list of what is needed. He is working on getting the business loop road on that list and try to go after it from a transportation perspective. If not, then we will go after it from Economic Development basically just talking about development that can happen there. Dan said one of the challenges we had writing that grant was we do not have any engineering or plan for it. He said the more your plan is designed, well thought out, and ready to go, the more likely you are to get some of those grants.

Dan said one of the things he has thought about doing is applying for a grant to do the master plan and engineering of the airport for the road, water, power, natural gas, and anything else that needs to be done. Rick talked about Goodfellows crushing company who owns property by the airport and asking them to do some preliminary engineering on the road because it would benefit

their land, and use that to help us with the grant. Dan said they already want to do something even if it is building a gravel road. Dan talked about the challenge we have with the property owner who owns the property at the entrance to the airport.

Dan said one of the ideas is we can either pay to have the engineering done for the master plan, or we could get the engineering to build the road, but if we build the road we will want to put in utilities. Another idea is to look into an electric car charging station.

This grant is an 80/20 grant, so if we do apply for it, we will have to come up with match dollars. Dan said if we want to apply, we have to have our intent to apply pre-application submitted by the October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline; the application deadline is October 7<sup>th</sup>.

There was a discussion about making the airport the best airport for what it is and turn it into an asset for the city. Dan asked if we want to apply for an industrial park plan; the committee agreed this is the best option for this grant. The committee talked about where the 20% match would come from. Rick suggested to levy the property owners at the airport who would benefit from the road a percentage of the 20%. Dan said that would be a good idea if we got the grant to do the whole road, but we wouldn't want to do that to apply for this grant. There was a discussion about the engineering cost. The committee decided to apply for this grant to do the master plan and engineering for the airport road.

Rick Anderson moved to apply for the Rural Communities Opportunity Grant, Intent to Apply/Re-Apply. Mike Keil seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

DISCUSS, REVIEW AND GIVE ASSIGNMENTS ON ANY OTHER TOPICS – Dan talked about the Economic Assistance Grant (EAG). This is not a grant for the city, it is for businesses to apply for. During the 2023 General Session the legislature allocated \$4.5 million to the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity for this grant. It is a one-time based project funding opportunity grant. Dan read the grant narrative (attached). He said the portal opens September 7<sup>th</sup> and closes September 21<sup>st</sup>.

For assignments, Dan will file the intent to apply pre-grant submittal. When he narrows it down to what we are applying for, he will send out an email to the committee. Mike asked if he needed help with writing the grant or building tables; Dan said maybe so. Rick asked Dan to send him a map and he will do a layout for the industrial park.

There was a discussion about Goodfellows, the Alex Meisner development, and the townhomes going in on 400 North.

**ADJOURNMENT** – David Harris moved to adjourn the meeting. Lori Eichelberger seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Minutes Approved at November 7, 2023 Meeting

Jared Meibos, Committee Chair

Stacy Gale, Secretary